

WARREN
PRESENTS:**WANTED**

\$1.75

11/8/79

WANT TO SEE

The**ROOK**ALSO KNOWN AS
THE
**MASTER
OF TIME****DEAD OR ALIVE!****REWARD!**

THE MAKING OF A COMIC BOOK HERO!

It's not as easy as it looks!

In early 1970, westerns, long the staple of paperbacks, television and motion pictures, were being sadly neglected by the media.

After only a few short seasons of oblivion, the Ponderosa had been completely forgotten. Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy and The Lone Ranger were nothing more than distant memories. And God forbid the modern generation speak the revered name of Shane. Even Matt Dillon, long-cast-off of all the old west legends, was carried out boots first after that final, disastrous showdown with the sharp-shooting Nedroma.

The fickle American public seemed to have completely forgotten their heritage, and were turning to the Columbo, MacMillan and Rockefords for more modern, fast-paced thrills. Yet, even the seemingly endless parade of private eyes and Police Stories weren't enough to hold America's limited attention span. And while divas such as Rocky, Charlie's Angels and Archie Barker were nice, they too were inadequate to satisfy the nation's insatiable mental hunger.

America seemed to be searching for some intangible something. It was one of those rare times when the country was in between fads, impatiently awaiting the next Elvis, Louis Armstrong or Dave.

Like any media mogul worth his weight in newspaper, Jim Warren, famous magazine magnate, wanted desperately to be an integral part of that coming crisis, wherever it was to be. And, being an intelligent, perceptive individual, he was unconcerned in his conviction that he alone knew the secret: The next big craze would be... Westerns!

Armed with this wisdom and inspired foreknowledge, Warren set out to accomplish as no one had ever before: capitalized on a trend.

He summoned two of the most talented creative minds of his



Like the western, comic books faded. The first series came about when Duke came up with his first limited edition of The Duke. The comic was intended for the New York Times News Syndicate's old stories.

deposed Howard Porter of Package Play Development in Galt, Pa., and Bill Dillay, founder of Connecticut's fledgling Cartoon Factory.

Porter and Package Play Development had an impressive track record in the creation and design of children's playthings for larger manufacturers. While Duke's Cartoon Factory was pleasing clients like CHUCKED, SICK, CHAST and PLAYBOY with assorted cartoon art and scripting. After five hectic years of magazine deadlines, Duke had earlier that year, stepped down from his position as editor of the Warren magazine.

At the first meeting of the talented trio, Warren presented an outline of his strategy. "Tell me your job, Duke, to come up with the next Lone Ranger! We need a hero that will rekindle interest in the old west and set the public's imagination afire."

"No easy task," was Duke's enthusiastic response, whooped in his usual understated comic tone.

Porter, however, was more easily inspired. "We just want the toy companies need! Mattel can dig out their old cowboy molds, chased since the fifties. And we'll design a whole new line of horses for Mega!"

At least two-thirds of the triumvirate concluded the meeting with the sincere conviction that they were about to set the world on fire. Duke, however, to whom the monumental task fell of creating this trend-setting comic sensation, stepped back to his Connecticut studio nursing Jim Warren for dragging him away from important assignments to pursue chaotic visions of an idea.

For the next week, Duke immersed himself in work for his outcrop-publishing clients, and forget all about capturing the public's capricious eye. Until, that is, Budd Lewis, his partner in the Factory, casually queried about what he was up to for Warren.

"Yes, I've got to invent the next Deep Crockett," responded Duke without looking up from his cluttered drawing board. "J.W. wants to market cartoon paper!"

"Got any ideas?" queried Lewis. "I know what I don't want to do. A western," replied Duke. "But Jim's convinced that the old west is going to take off like a jet-powered fuselage."

"What do you think the next big trend is going to be?"

"Who can say? These things sneak up on you."

"But what do you think?" pressed Lewis.

"I think the answer is in the future, not the past. People are going to be looking ahead, towards the promise of tomorrow."

"Then come up with a character set in the future!"

"Can't!" complained Duke. "Warren was explicit: Produce a cowboy. If only there was some way I could step out of that limited old west setting..."

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The Rook's Castle could deliver him to any time segment in existence but the Rook had to leave before the segment ran out or suffer the consequences and be trapped in time! **66**

WARREN PRESENTS:

The ROOK™

WARREN PRESENTS THE ROOK. PUBLISHED BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. NATIONAL SERVICE & SUBSCRIPTION OFFICES AT
1001 N. 10TH STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036 TELEPHONE (212) 693-4000
VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

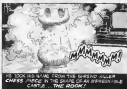
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WARREN PUBLISHING IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY AT THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF \$6.95 PER YEAR BY WARREN PUBLISHING
CO., A DIVISION OF WARREN COMMUNICATION COMPANY. APPLICATION FOR MAIL AT SPECIAL RATE POSTAGE PAID IN
PERMISSION AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.



HE'S DOWN
REWIN DANCE

HEY HE CALLS HIMSELF
THE ROOK!



HE TOOK HIS NAME FROM THE SPENDING ALIAS
CHIPPED OFFICE IN THE SHIRT OF AN EXPENSIVE
CASTLE... THE ROOK!



HEY HE MOVED THROUGH THE SLIDERS OF TIME...
QUICKLY, QUICKLY, AS MYSTICIOUS AS THE DARK
CIRCUS BLACK BAND OF TRICK... KNOCK ALSO
AS... THE ROOK!

THE ROOK™

OLD TIME... NEW JAZZ TIME! EVERY TIME!

THE PLACE HE CALLS HOME... THE OLD WEST!



THE LEGEND THAT WAS BORN OVER... ROOK...
IS FACT OF THE PAST... LONG-FOREVER TELL AND
HEY... HE STAYS... BEING... TODAY!





THE MAN WHOM TIME FORGOT!











ROOK PART II: THE MAN WHOM TIME FORGOT





"BY TRADE, HE IS A **TECHNOLOGIST**. HE EXPERIMENTS WITH THE SCIENCE OF **PHYSICS, COMPUTERS, AND ADVANCED ELECTRONICS.**"

"HIS WORK IN THESE FIELDS LED MASTER DAVE TO DESIGN HIS MAGNIFICENT **TIME TRAVELLING DEVICE.**"



"THE MACHINE'S COMPONENTS WERE ASSEMBLED BY SEVERAL GROUPS OF TECHNICIANS FOLLOWING MASTER DAVE'S SPECIFIC PLANS. NO GROUP KNEW EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS WORKING ON, AND I PRESUME BECAUSE OF THE PRESUMPT **WHOLE EACH WAS WILD NO ONE COULD...OR DARED TO SPECULATE.**"



"I ASSISTED MASTER DAVE IN ASSEMBLING THE ACTUAL **TIME-TRAVEL MACHINE.** WE WORKED FEARSOMELY...ENTIRE **DAYS** WITHOUT FOOD OR SLEEP. THE MASTER DAVE WAS A MAN POSSESSED, OBSESSIVE IN THE DEEP OF A HORRIBLE **OBSESSION.**"



"HIS ENTIRE LIFE, THE MASTER DAVE WANTED A MACHINE SUCH AS THIS...A MACHINE THAT WOULD ALLOW HIM TO **RECAP** THE TIME IN WHICH HE HAD BEEN **RETRIBUTION.**"



"MASTER DAVE SPENT A **LIFETIME** PLANNING, **DESIGNING** OF THE MACHINERY WHICH ASSISTED HIM IN **TIME.**"

"THAT HIS MOMENT FINALLY CAME, HE WAS DREAMING...AS IF IN AN INFERABLE WORLD, TO THAT OUR POINT IN TIME WOULD BEING AND ADAPTED HIS SINCE HIS **YOUTH.**"







ANY CHANCE?
WELL, I'LL BE
DRUMMED! BUT... THERE
IS NO DIRECT
PLAYBOY!



AND COLONEL...
PLEASE... HE HE--?

RIGHT HERE,
BOY! I GONNA
PLEASE TALK
NAT!

BOOM!



PLEASED
ALL HAND?

BOOM!



AND... AND JOHN
BROWN... HE HE--?

HE'S ALIVE... BUT IN
SAD SHAPE, MISTER!
WE'VE GOT HIM DOWN
IN THE INFIRMARY.

BOOM!



AND... AND WHAT
ABOUT BARRER
DANCE?

WELL, NOW
IN HELL! YOU
KNOW I'M
IN HERE, PELLA?

BOOM!



I DON'T KNOW
MYSELF TELL THE
MOMENT!

WELL? DO
I KNOW
MOMENT?



NO, BUT I KNOW YOU
KNOW THE REASON
I'M HERE!



I HAD A GRAND
NOTION TELL ME
ALL ABOUT YOU
CASE, NOW YOU
KNOW I'M
IN HERE, PELLA?

WELL? DO
I KNOW
MOMENT?

BOOM!

BOOM!



... I KNOW... AND NOW
THAT I'M HERE, THAT'S THE
MOMENT'S GONNA BE!

WELL? DO
I KNOW
MOMENT?











ANYONE WHO RETURNED HOME FROM HIS TIME TRIP THERE, WOULD WEARY AND FULLY PROGRAMMED

ALL HIS LIFE, HE HAD DREAMED OF SAVING THE ALAMO... SAVING THE LIFE OF HIS FOREBEAR... MURDERER DAVE



THEY HADN'T DIED AT HIS SIDE, AT LEAST NOT AS YET... HE HAD FAILED IN HIS LIFE'S MISSION!

IT WAS FEELS BEFORE HE WAS AGAIN ENTICED TO ATTEMPT ANOTHER TRY



HE WANTED MORE THAN ALL ELSE TO TRAVEL BACK... TO MEET HIS ANCESTORS

AND IT WAS ON THAT SECOND TRY THAT HE MET YOU... HIS GREAT GREAT GRANDFATHER



AND ALL THAT OCCURRED THEN...

"MANNERS" MANNERS' THE TIME CIRCLE... IT'S RETURNING!



GOOD LORD!

IT THERE'S NO ONE HERE!

THERE IS SOMETHING... BLOOD!



OH NO MANNERS! NOW! THE CONTRADICTION!

IF HE'S NOT, HE SHOULD BE! NOW HE SAVED ME, HE FIGHT UP AGAINST THE VILEST MAN IN THE WEST... THAT MURDERER!

AND IF HE'S NOT NOW OR NEVER, HE WENT BACK TO FORGET HIS WORK AFTER HE LEFT HE HERE.



YOU'VE MADE UP YOUR MIND AND THE CONTRADICTION!

YES... YOU... YOU CAN'T... YOU'RE TOO INFLUENT!



WHO THE HELL'S GONNA STOP ME FROM SEEING YOU?

I GAVE THAT NO! HE'S DARED ME, THYCE NOW!

T. HADGE...

I WAS LONGING FOR SOMEONE... WHO'VE BROUGHT ME HERE, BUT WHEN I LOOKED INTO HIS FACE... I SAW A PLASTER... SOMEONE FAMILIAR!

NOW... NOW I KNOW! I... I SAW HIM ONCE BEFORE... I... I WAS PROFOUNDLY CONFUSED THEN TOO.

BUT BECAUSE OF HIM, I WAS THE ONLY PERSON TO SURVIVE THE ALAMO!

ON THE JAMES BROWN

THE ROOK, A SECRETIVE, BRILLIANT MAN & ANTERIOR
LEADER, AN ADVENTURER IN TIME.

A MAN FOR ALL CENTURIES: SPINNING AN AWESOME MYTH
BETWEEN THE TICKS OF THE CLOCK, HIS STORY BEGAN
HERE, THE TIME, 1836. THE PLACE, THE COTTONWOOD...
SOON TO BE KNOWN AS... EL ALAMO!

THE ROOK™

THE DAY BEFORE TOMORROW



TOMORROW HAD ALREADY
HAPPENED... BUT THE DAY
BEFORE TOMORROW HAD
JUST DAWNED ABOVE A
SUBVERSIVE HOT TEXICAN
FRONTIER.

THE MORNING THE STEELING MAN
ANTONIO HAD HEARD THE
CHALLENGING SOUND OF A GUN.
A GUN WHICH BELONGED TO THE
BAND OF A GUNNER DRIVING A
LINE IN THE SAND. THE REPLY HAD
WAS THE THUNDER OF HIS PAIRS OF
BOOTS CROSSING
THAT LINE.

YET ONE MAN DID NOT
REPLY. ONE WHO
ALONE? CLAY HAWKIN?



"I'M GOIN'
OVER THE WALL."

STORY: BUDD LEWIS/ART: LUIS BERMEJO







THEY'VE GONE AWAY! THE SOUND
AND THE ALARM! BUT CLIPPING
THROUGH MYSELF! FALLING
THE THROUGH MY SHOULDERS
LIFTED!



AND HE SUDDENLY AS IT STARTED
THEY'VE COME TO AN
ABRUPT STOP!

SURELY IT...IT
WAS...AWAYTHAWING?



HEAD HEARS
STILL SPARKING
THROUGHING!

A-SOMEONE'S COMING
OUT OF THE MACHINE. JUST
GOT TO GET MY HEAD ABOUT
MY ARM! WHAT...SHOULD?



IT'S OVER, THE
ALARM IS ANYMORE
NON-EXISTENT!

WATCH?
WHAT...?



IT'S OVER! THE ALARM STOPPED!
HE COME BACK! GOD STILL SO
SADDER! CAN BARELY BELIEVE
AND... A BOY! THAT NAME!
THAT'S COOL, SOMEONE'S
HERE!

YES, THEN THE ALARM'S BEEN
FOR ALARM! THEY'RE ALL DEAD!
THAT'D BE THE ONLY WAY TO
GET THAT AND HOURS AWAY FROM
GODDAMN THEM!



"IT'S TOMORROW! IT HAD TODAY! I WENT YESTERDAY JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO! DAMN! IF I COULD JUST CLEAR MY MIND I COULD FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!"

"OH MY GOD! THAT! THAT ROCK! YES... HE... HE'S A WEAPON! AN ENGINEER! THE MACHINE... THE ROCK... IT'S A... TIME MACHINE!"

"AND... AND HE'S LEAVING ME!"



"NO! NO! DON'T LEAVE, ROCK MAN! DON'T LEAVE ME!"



"DON'T...! STOP!!!"



"AGAIN... METAL EXPLODES AGAIN! BUT MAKING NOISE! DAVE! TRYING THE RULE OF FIVE! THE MACHINE AND DAVE'S GUNSHOTS AND P.L.S."

"AND AGAIN... THE GOLF DEPARTED ON A DIVERSE FOOT IS PULLED THROUGH... FORM!"



"I... I IN A MILLISECOND! WITH ALL MY MODERN WEAPONS AND GADGETS I COULDN'T EVEN SAVE MY OWN ANCESTOR AT THE ALAMO! OH GOD! SO WHAT HAPPENS TO ME NOW?"

"THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TRY AGAIN! I COULD NEVER CARRY THAT ONE SEMENT OF TIME! IT'S LOST TO ME FOR ALL ETERNITY!"



"AND YES... I STILL DON'T! I'M HERE! SO THERE MUST BE ANOTHER LINK BETWEEN ME AND THE ALAMO! PARRISH DIED AT THE ALAMO! BUT BEFORE HE DIED... HE MUST HAVE LEFT A SON... OR I COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN HIS DESCENDANT!"

"OH DAMN! NOW WHAT? THIS? THE TIME MACHINE IS SHUT! CIRCUITS ARE... BUT... BUT WHY?"

"THE RULE TIME IS TURNED OUT TO BE A BUST! I GOT TO RUN DOWN IN SOME ARIZONA FOR REPAIRS! THOSE HIGH TENSION ARROWS JUSTICE SHOT MY BACKS TO HELL!"

MEET A LITTLE HONORED TOWN SOMEWHERE
IN ARIZONA



HE LIVED ON
TWO THIRDS
SEVERAL HOURS LONG TOO!

THE BROTHER FOR ME
TO MAKE MY ADVANCE
AND GET OUT OF HERE



THE TIME TRAVEL, THIS
IS STILL NEW TO ME! IT CAN
BE TRIP RE-LOADING, I'M
NOT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
TIME AND HOW TO CONTROL IT!



**MASTER
GUNFIGHTER**
The World's Fastest Gun
AND OWNER OF THE TOWN OF JERRY!

BUT I'M THE
ONLY MAN IN THE
WORLD WHO EVER
FOUNDED OUT ABOUT THE
EXISTENCE OF TIME
MACHINES, AND
CERTAINLY THAT'S THE
ONLY MACHINE EVER
BUILT TO GO
THAT!



THE THING THAT
ADVENTURE HE
TOLD, IS WHAT
HAPPENS TO ME AND
THE TIME CASTLE
WHEN THE CITY CAUSE
IN A THE JUNGLE AND THE
ROADSIT MORE
WAS THERE LATER
FULLY JUNGLE
GOING?

IF THE TIME HEAD-
MENT CHANGES TO EXIST
AND I'M STILL IN IT...
WILL I BE TRAPPED IN
...MOMENT? IT'S A
GREAT THOUGHT!

I'M STILL NOT SO
HIGH TO LEARN! AND
I CAN'T AFFORD TO MAKE
MY MISTAKE... OR IT'LL
BE THE END OF MY
JOURNALS!



THE AND THE
CASTLE IS REMAINING
AFTER BEING BUILT UP
LIKE THAT COULD
PROVE MY UNDOING,
TOO!

GO TO SCROLLING AROUND
AND SEE IF I CAN COME UP WITH
SOMETHING TO PIECE THE
CIRCULAR BACK TOGETHER... SO I
CAN GET BACK TO JERRY!



IN 2 HOURS
I'VE FOUND
THE LINE -- 2

NEVER DON'T
GET AWAY
FROM THERE!







CH-CH-CH!

JUST DOWN THERE!
CROWNS IT WAS STRAIGHT
FOR AN ASSAULTED NERVE
BARRY! I'LL NEVER FIND
HIM NOW, OR MY
RESTIMENT WIFE!



CAN'T SEE A THING!
IT'S DARKER THAN MY
LAMB'S HEART IN HOLE!
BUT I CAN STILL HEAR!
AND IT SOUNDS LIKE THAT
BARRY WOULD HAVE
THIS SHIRT!



IF I DON'T FIND THAT
BLACK SHIP AND THE GOLDEN
PIECE OF MY WIFE SOON... I
DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK
ABOUT MY GRIMACES!

THE SHIP MEETS
THE GOLDEN... I
CAN STILL HEAR SOMEONE...
LIKE MYSELF PLAYING THE
DOWN THE TUNNEL...



THIS IS DARKER THAN THE
HOLE! I DO THE
SMOOTHNESS THE TUNNEL...
BUT NO MORE...
OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
COULD HAVE CUT THROUGH
SOLID ROCK LIKE THIS!

AND... THERE ARE NO...
SHIPS OR...
SHOOTY TUNNELS!...
THINKING NOT EVEN
ANYTHING IN MY OWN TIME...
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY...
A BARGE, SEE LIKE THIS!



I'VE GOT TO
FIND OUT EXACTLY
WHERE I AM! MY
PROTESTER WILL
READ OUT LONG-
TERM AND LIT-
TLE AND FOR-
GOTTEN MY
FORGIVEN!



I SHOULD HAVE DONE
IT BEFORE STOPPING OVER
IN THE TIME! GUESS I WAS
JUST TOO PREOCCUPIED!

WELL, BARRY
CAN YOU BEAT
THAT?



JUST GONE TO SHOW FOR
MUCH THING CHANGE WITH TIME
POINT NOW... OR A ONE HUNDRED AND
THREE YEARS FROM NOW, TO BE STAN-
DING DIRECTLY UNDER MY ROOM
CLOCK!

WANT I NEVER
DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS
BARRY BARRY!



DON'T A LUCK!
FORGET ABOUT THAT SHIP
WITH MY RESTIMENT WIFE! IF I DON'T CATCH
THE SHIP, THE ROCK
CASTLE WILL NEVER BE
BUILT A NEW PONY FROM
NOW!





WHAT WAS THAT? A
SOMETHING MOVED IN THE
DARK. JUST A SHADOW?

SHADOWY SOUND,
LIKE... LIKE A WHISPERING
VOICE?



SOMEHOW SOME
LIGHT. A SOLAR DISC FROM
MY HAT BAND SHOULD PROVIDE
ENOUGH. EVEN DOWN HERE.



NO LIGHT?



THINK! THE SHADOWY
VOICE HEARD, COMING FROM
DIRECTLY AHEAD! LET'S TAKE A
LOOK AND SEE WHO/WHAT/WHO
HE AND THE BLACK BIRD IS
IN THIS HOUSE!



MY GOD!



A... A ROBOT? BY WHO?
IT'S A ROBOT! A VERY AM-
AZING ROBOT!



THE BLACK BIRD WAS
NOT DIRECTLY TOWARD US, BUT
IT'S NOT ACCIDENTAL!

OLD BIRD, YOU'RE NOT
SO STUPID AFTER ALL. YOU
KNEW THE BIRD WOULD FOLLOW
YOU TO THE ROBOT!

WELL, THAT WERE I, I'D
WANT TO KNOW WHY THE
ROBOT WOULD FOLLOW ME
TO THE HOUSE IN THE
DARK!



THE CROWDING HAS COME TO BRING OUR LITTLE LIVES BOYS? AN' IT'S WORTH IT?

WELL, I'M NOT SURE, JOHN CAME?

A MODERN AND OLD, BILLY TOM. AN' ANOTHER HE STOOD TO BE SURE? AN' ANOTHER SURE?

WHEN HE COMES AND JOHN CAME THAT'S OUR TICKET TO TOMORROW?

BUT WHAT TOMORROW? GOT THAT READY, AN' GOT, BILLY TOM?

WELL, ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD, ALL THE TIME THERE EVER, AND THERE, ALL THAT THERE EVER, AN' THAT TO TOMORROW HE WANT, JOHN CAME, AN' ANOTHER AS HE WANT ... AND ANOTHER!

SAY TOMORROW TO HIM OUT IN THAT'S RIGHT TOMORROW? GOT THAT TOMORROW?

WHENEVER YOU SEE SHOOTING, YOU'D THE TALKING AND HE 'N BILLY TOM, DO ALL THE SHOOTING! BILLY TOM!

DO ANOTHER HAVE EXPECTED TO BE ANYTHING AS ADVANCED AS THIS IN THE PAST, JUST A FEW MORE ADJUSTMENTS AND ...



HEARDY ON! ... YOU, YOU ARE A MEMBER OF SCIENCE LIES MASTER, I LIVE AGAIN!

WHO ARE YOU ABOUT? WHO CREATED YOU? AND HOW DO YOU COME TO THIS PLACE?

AWWW!

I AM PHILLES, THE GUARDIAN TO THE GALLERY. I HAVE BEEN DEBARRED TO THE PLACE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

MY WARRIORS CAME TO THIS PLACE FROM A DISTANT STAR? THEY SET UP A LABORATORY HERE TO HEAR THE EARTH TO STUDY YOUR RACE.

BEHIND THE GREAT ROCK AND THE GREAT ICE TREASURES THEY LEFT BEHIND A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, WHEN THEIR SPIRITS WERE CONSIDERED DEAD, THEN THEY HAVE RETURNED HERE, LETTING US KNOW TO PROTECT THEM WITH THEM.

AND NOW YOU, YOU ARE MY MASTER, NOW SHALL I SERVE YOU? ALL THAT I AM AND THAT WHICH LIES BEHIND IN THE GALLERY IS FOREVER BOUND TO OBEY YOU?

6
6
6







SO YOU'RE EXACTLY WHAT THE MASTER DEMONSTER?

AND YOU, MISS, ARE THE MOST EXCITATING CREATURE I'VE EVER HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING!

I'M KATE ARCALL, I OWN THE EL DORADO SALOON.

IT'S AWFULLY DUSKY AROUND THE CARNIVAL, MISS ARCALL. WOULDN'T YOU LET ME BRING YOU FOR A PRINK OF SOMETHING SOBERABLE?



WHY DID YOU BRING ME, BART? I... I THOUGHT...

THE BLOWN-UP IS ONLY TEMPORARY, MASTER BART! YOU WILL FIND OUT WHY THIS HAD TO HAPPEN THE NEXT TIME YOU UTILIZE THE GALLERY.

I WILL INSTRUCT THE BIRD TO LEAD YOU SAFELY OUT OF THE TUNNEL.



KATE, YOU CAN COMMUNICATE WITH THE BIRD?

AS YOU ALL KNOW THOSE SPIN BART, YOU'LL FIND IT USEFUL. UNCONVINCEDLY, I'VE INSTRUCTED THE BIRD TO REPLACE YOUR STOLEN OR CUTRY WIRE.

SO, UNTIL YOU MEET ME... AND THE GALLERY, KATE... FAREWELL.



I'VE NEVER MET ANY-ONE LIKE YOU BEFORE, MISS. I... I'D LIKE TO STAY WITH YOU GET TO KNOW YOU.

I JUST DON'T SEE HOW I CAN LEAVE AND LEAVE SOMEONE LIKE YOU HERE!

HOW DO YOU LIKE TO RUN AWAY FROM ALL THIS TROUBLE, LUSTURY AND JOIN THE TROLL AND SQUALLOR OF THE CARNIVAL?



OH, YES, BART. I... I CAN'T DO IT... I FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT THIS... I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU... THE TRUTH.

WHAT? WHAT IS IT, KATE? YOU CAN TELL ME! IT WON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IS TO HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU.

OH, YES, WE HAVE AN SET YOU UP! HE FORCED ME TO BRING YOU HERE... TO GET YOU DRUNK, STEAL YOUR MONEY! HE WANTS TO EMBRO YOU!

BART? HAD YOU THOUGHT ABOUT KATE GIRL?



WHY, BART? WHY AREN'T YOU GET OUT OF HERE, THROUGH THE WINDOW, I CAN'T EXPLAIN NOW, JUST RUN, RUN BACK!



MAKE A MOVE, GUNFIGHTER AND I BURY YOUR HANDS OFF!



WHY THEN BOYS? I TOLD
EM NOT TO KILL SHARP DAVE!
IF THEY HUNGERS HADN'T
KILLED THEM...



WHY HUNGERS
KIDNAP ON GOD? DON'T TELL
ME, LET ME GUESS...

EVERYTHING WAS GOING
ACCORDING TO PLAN. UNTIL THE
KIDS TIPPED OFF THE POLICE
ABOUT THE NEWS - GET ME!

DAVE WAS READY
WHEN YOU BURSTED IN TO
ARREST HIM! HE JUMPED BILLY
TON, SHAMPOOED YOU DOWN HARD
AND CLIMBED OUT THE NEW
DOOR AND ESCAPED!

GODDAMN
HE... HE'S
SCARY!



AT LEAST I KNOW
WHERE DAVE WENT! BUT I
NEED THE GIRL, TELL ME WHEN
THE THUGS I WAS GET OLD!

THERE'S AN OLD
WAGON HANGING FROM
THE ROAD! NO ONE
KIND IN THERE!



I HATE YOU
GODDAMN! YOU
CROOKED THE
MONEY MAN
WHEN YOU
CROOKED MY
MONEY!

NOW, WHEN I TURN
AROUND OF YOU, YOU'VE
ONE OF YOUR KIDS! LET THE
GIRL GO! TO RUN UP TO
THE LITTLE CHILDREN!
TOM, THERE SHELL FIND A
STRANGE TELLER - A
BOY MAN WITH A HANGING
SHIRT LIKE A CREEPY!

YOU HAVE
YOUR GIRL
GIVE HER A
MESSAGE!



THAT A GIRL
WOULD BE SHOT FOR
BLAME A WOMAN
THE WAY HE SEAT
WAS GOD HATE!

THE GIRL IS ONLY
A LITTLE GIRL IS ALL! BUT
PLEASE, HURRY! WE'VE GOT
TO KNOW THE MAN WE'VE
SUFFERED TO FIND ONLY AN
OLD MAN SHARP DAVE
NOW.



WATTS!

YOU'RE LOOKING FOR JIMMY? I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW COULD YOU EVEN KNOW I WAS HERE...? AND THE ENTIRE AMERICAN FISHBOY YOU'RE SPEAKING OF... HOW COULD HE KNOW?

WELL, HERE, THIS COULD HAVE BEEN HIM! YOU SAY HE WAS JIMMY'S FATHER AND THAT JIMMY IS GONNA BE A MAN UNLESS I COME QUICK?

I SURELY DON'T UNDERSTAND IT ALL, LARRY, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE CHANGED A SLIP OF TROUBLE INTO MY THREE FRAGILE LIVES!

YOU SURE YOU CAN'T GIVE ME A LIFT ON THE WHEEL, LARRY?

JIMMY BOONE: I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT IT ALL MEANS, I JUST KNOW SORT OF CARE IN IT... LIKE YOU.

WELL, COME ON DOWN, JIMMY BOONE! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND SOME ANSWERS IN MY FINE TUBES. THANK GOD MY VISIONS CLEARER IT WOULDN'T GO TO THE OIL! ANYWAY TWO-DECK TUBES COME MORE IN THE DARK THAN I USUALLY MEET!

COME INTO MY TUBE, LARRY! AND I'LL SHOW YOU ANSWERS THE WAY OF HADU YOU'VE NEVER SEEN!

...SO THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY? BUT WHY WOULD HE KNOW MY SECRET AND WANT TO GET WITH ME? HOW WOULD HE KNOW TO GET HIS CHOICED ANSWERS MY ANSWERS?

BUT MORE... HOW I KNOW? THAT'S THE SAME FISHBOY AS THE SAME FISHBOY WHO'S IN THE HAZARD RIGHT NOW... HE'S MY OWN GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER, BRACK BOON, THE HAZARD SUPERHERO!



LOOKS LIKE IN SOME TOBACCO TO BECOME SOME SORT OF ANSWER BOON AND SHE'S MY OWN ANSWER FOR THE ANSWERS! BUT THIS TIME... I MAY BE MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN LAST!

OH, PLEASE DON'T SAY PLEASE... I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH A MAN COULD MEAN TO ME UNTIL I MET HIM.

I'LL TRY TO MY BEST GATE.

DO YOUR BEST FOR ME, TOO, HAZARD ANSWER! JUST YOUR OWN WAY OUT IN ONE PIECE... PLEASE!

I... I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME! I KNOW YOU... I'VE NEVER MET A MAN LIKE YOU BEFORE! AND, AND TO HAVE CHOICE YOU REMIND ME OF THE HAZARD BOON!

YOUR NAME, LARRY?

WELL, JIMMY BOON... THAT'S THE ANSWER! THE ANSWER'S NAME TO ME IS MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS!

YOU'VE GOT MY WORDS! I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU!

...Mmmmm!



THREE! THE
MACHINE. I AND I
DON'T NEED A GOOD
OPE TO TELL YOU THAT
THE WAY WITH THE
SUTTING SUTTING
SHOULD BECOME!

QUIT
HARRING!



POOH
HARRING YOU
SACHED UP!
WHAT A
PLEASANT
SURPRISE!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE
HEARD BY THE MACHINE'S
YOU CAN HAVE'S DAME.
RELEVIN DAME.

I KNOW THAT,
BOOK MAN. SUMER
NAME AS THE KILLER
I GOT TRAPPED DOWN
YOUR DAME. HOW
OF MORE, IS HE?



YOU KNOW IT BEFORE I DO
WHICH YOU KNOW EVERYTHING
YOU PUT IT ALL TOGETHER THAT I
WAS A KING. THEREFORE, WHY I
WENT BACK TO THE ALAND
EVERYTHING?

YOU'RE GONE
A CLEVER FELLOW.
QUIT HARRING.



BUT THERE'S ONE
THING YOU COULDN'T
UNDERSTAND AND THAT'S
WHY I BUILT A TIME
MACHINE, AND WHY I
RETURNED TO THE
PAST. I YOU CALL
THE POOH IT IS
BUTTER, HOW IT IS
BUT WHAT IS BOOKS
GREATEST SECRETS?



ALRIGHT, WHAT IS
BOOKS GREATEST SECRETS?

THAT'S SOMETHING
YOU'LL NEVER LEARN,
QUIT HARRING, NOT EVEN
IN EXCHANGE FOR THE
LIFE OF SUMER
DAME?

BUT LET ME SAY THIS...
IF I SURVIVED MY TIME
MACHINE TO YOU... THE ENTIRE
FUTURE OF THE EARTH
WOULD BE COMPLETE!



YES I'LL KILL SUMER
DAME, AND YOU'LL
CEASE TO EXIST!
BECAUSE YOU'VE
NEED HAVE BEEN
BORN!

YOU STILL WON'T HAVE THE
TIME MACHINE! IT'S A
CEASE TO EXIST TOO! I
WOULD HAVE NEVER LIVED
TO BUILD IT!



I'LL TAKE MY
CHANCE! SAY GOOD-
BYE, BOOK MAN! YOU
AND YOUR SUMMER
MASTER GUARDIAN
CAN REST IN
PEACE!

POOH!

BA BA BA BA BA BA BA BA BA BA







WITH SOME SCIENTIST TECHNICIAN PARTS OF HIS OWN FATE, HE ENTERS LIFE WITH ONLY ONE GOAL: TO ESCAPE THE GREATEST PRISON EVER TO RECAPTURE HUMANITY.
Keep It Real!

HIS MISSION? TO BUILD A TIME MACHINE... TO LIVE THE PAST... THE PRESENT... AND ALL...
STABILITY!

YESTERDAY, THE FINAL DAY

WITH THE AID OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE, THE MAN AND MONKEYS RESCUED AND HAD A LOT OF FUN. THE MAN AND MONKEYS USED THE SCIENCE AND MAGIC TO REACH THE GREATEST PRISON EVER TO RECAPTURE HUMANITY. THERE WAS A PLOT HERE TO STOP.



THE MAN AND MONKEYS HAD COME TO LIVE THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. MONKEYS, HE SUCCEEDED ONLY IN RECAPTURING THAT PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAIN.



AND NOT IF NOT CHAINED, THE MAN HAD AN LEAST BEEN ASSURED FOR HIS MONKEYS. THE MAN AND MONKEYS HAD COME TO LIVE THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. MONKEYS, HE SUCCEEDED ONLY IN RECAPTURING THAT PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAIN.

ONE BRAVE BOY... AND ONE COMEBACK MAN... WHO, QUITE BY ACCIDENT, FOUND HIMSELF TRAVELING THROUGH TIME, ATTACHED TO THE STRONG OF THE MAN'S TIME CASTLE.



THE MAN AND MONKEYS HAD COME TO LIVE THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN. MONKEYS, HE SUCCEEDED ONLY IN RECAPTURING THAT PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAIN.



BEYOND DANCE... THE
BUT... ANOTHER
BUT... HE'S...
BUT... HE'S...
ONE HUNDRED
YEARS... AFTER HE
HAD SAVED AN OLD
MAN FROM THE
THUNDERING HAND
OF GUT HANDED!

HE SAVED GUT MAN AND... IS... BOY... SAVED THE...
HE... BUT... THAT... GUT... GUT... THE...
GUT... GUT... GUT... GUT...



THE **ROOK**



HOW DO YOU
KNOW THAT BOOM MAN
WILL RETURN, SHARKE?
HE'S BEEN BOOM MEN ON
A REGULAR BASIS!

TIME MEANS NOTHING
TO RIFLE SHARKE! HE HAS A
DOOR TO SETTLE WITH ME, AND
IF IT TAKES AN ETERNITY, HE'LL BE
BACK TO MAKE ME PAY FOR THAT
I DID TO THAT OLD MAN!



HE MAY NOT
COME FOR ME TODAY,
NOT EVEN TOMORROW,
OR NEXT YEAR, BUT IT'S
CERTAIN HE'LL BE
BACK!

AND WHEN HE
COMES, HE'LL LOOK
EXACTLY AS HE DID WHEN
WE LAST SAW HIM! HE
WON'T HAVE GONE CHANGED
THE WAY HE DRESS!



BOOMING MY
FINGER! BOOM!
THAT MAN IS A SPOOK!
HE CAN POP IN AND OUT OF
DOORS IN TIME FASTER
THAN A FUTURE CAN
POPO THE GUNSTLE FROM
A DEAD MAN'S BONES!



WHEN HE GETS
HERE - REMEMBER!
HE GETS HERE - HE'LL
BE READY FOR ME!

IT WILL TAKE
NOTHING MORE THAN
THE CHARGED BOMB
TO MAKE HIM GO AWAY!

ALL RIGHT, SHARKE,
I DON'T NEED MORE AND
ONE SHOTTER THAN
YOU!

LEAVE ME
REMEMBER THAT FIGHT
JOHN, AND YOU AND
I WILL GET ALONG
FAR BETTER!



GAT?

GAT HANSON!

I'VE COME
FOR YOU!



YOU ARE, SHARKE,
JUST AS I TOLD
YOU!



SHOOTING, SHOOTING
THAT WAS SO CLOSE
AND TWICE!

LEFT TONIGHT
NEVER EVEN
LOOKING AT YOUR
SUSPECT AGAIN!



JUST AS I STARTED, JOHN.
HE PROBABLY WAS EXPECTED TO BE
GUNNED TOO DURING THE
SAFETY OF THESE WOMEN TO PAY
MUCH ATTENTION TO KILLING ME
PROBABLY WAS AM!



I WANT TO THINK
YOU LIVED FOR
PLAYING YOUR
GAMES SO WELL!

YOU'VE GOT JUST
ONE MORE TASK BEFORE
YOU'RE FREE... AND THAT
APPEARS TO BE REMOVE
THE DEADLY BODY FROM
THE OFFICE UNUSABLE!



AFTER WHICH
IF APPEARS YOU
BOTH TO TAKE
THE MOST IM-
PORTANT MODEL
OF TRANSPORT-
ATION OUT OF
THE TOWN!

I NEVER
WANT TO SEE
EYES ON
STRANGE OF
YOU
AGAIN!

I NOW DO YOU AGAIN,
LADIES. MY DEPUTY AND I
HAVE BUSINESS ELSEWHERE.
IF YOU'VE JUST
WANTED A MANDATE
TO TRAVEL, THEN I
JUST TRUCKS IT BEFORE
IT FALLS INTO UNLAWFUL
HANDS! ARE WE? ARE WE?



JUST T-THIS
WEEK WHEN
IT'S ALL OVER!

OH, GOOD LATE!
WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO?



THE ONLY THING WE CAN
DO GET HIM TO SAFETY BEFORE
THE MURDERER GETS HIM
OUT AND AWAY FROM WHAT HE
STARTED!

BUT THERE'S NO PLACE
IN THE TOWN OF SAFE
FROM GETTING HIM!



THERE'S ONE PLACE
EVEN HE WOULDN'T DARE
TO GO! THAT ABANDONED
OUTSIDE TOWN! THE ONLY
SAFE! THAT'S WHERE
WE'LL TAKE HIM!



MEANWHILE... MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED YEARS LATER... AN ISOLATED
FORTRESS... SOMEWHERE IN THE ARIZONA DESERT

THOSE MANNERS... I HADN'T
CHANGED WITH TIME. TWO FULL
HUNDRED YEARS! YOU DON'T THINK
SOMETHING COULD HAVE
HAPPENED TO HIM?

THERE'S NO WAY WE
CAN KNOW FOR SURE,
AUNT! NOT UNLESS WE
RECALL THE TIME
CASTLE...



BUT... IF WE DID
THAT... AND THE MASTER
HAD REMAINED NEAR THE
TIME MACHINE... HE
WOULD HAVE BEEN
DETERMINED TO WIN IN
THE FIRST!

WAS THERE
SOMETHING
WE CAN DO,
MR. WINSTON?

WE CAN DO AS
WE'VE BEEN
INSTRUCTED,
BOB!

WE CAN LOOK
AFTER MASTER DINES
DISAPPEARANCE... AND
WE CAN WAIT!



OH, AUNT!

GET UP
HERE... IT'S
GONE! WE
LOST IT!

AND I ASSURE
YOU... THE FIRST
PART OF THOSE
INSTRUCTIONS IS
WHOLLY MORE
APPROPRIATE THAN
THE OTHER!



AUNT!
WITH SOME
QUICK... I
THINK WE
CAN FIND IT!

W-WHAT
AM I...?

LADY, MR. DINES,
YOUR SISTER!

YOU'RE IN AN
UNUSUAL CHARGE
IN THE BOWERS OF AN
ABANDONED HOME
SOMETHING!



AS I UNDERSTAND
IT... YOU'VE BEEN
HERE BEFORE!

I... I'M NOT SURE
YOUR SISTER WAS
THE PLACE! TO
THAT PLACE ON THE
ROCK... THE MOUNTAIN...
I TRIED TO
EXPLAIN IT...



SOMETHING
ABOUT THE
PAST AND THE
FUTURE... AND
AUNT
WAS THERE FROM
ANOTHER
WORLD!

OH, OH, I'M
SO SORRY! DINE,
IT'S ALL SO
CONFUSING!

BUT FOR NOW
SLEEP... I JUST
SLEEP... AND
GET BETTER!

WHEN, WHEN
YOU'RE WELL,
WILL YOU CAN
EXPLAIN?















JANEY, I'VE
HEARD YOUR SONG TOO
LONG, MY DARL!

SOMETHING
WENT VERY WRONG
TO NIGHT

I, I SHOULD
APPEAL AND GO
HOM... ALONE!

SHAME! SHAME!
BUT DON'T I GO!



YOU DON'T BLAME
YOURSELF DO YOU... YOU'RE
WILL TOO GREAT!

HEAR OR NOT... I'VE
GOT TO GET TO THE MACHINE.
IF I DON'T, MY MISTERS ARE
CERTAINLY IS PUTTING A PLAN
TO MY OWN DESTRUCTION!



AND YES... IF I GET
MISTERS AND MY MISTERS,
HOW WILL I GET TO NIGHT? HE
HAS MY CHILDREN! AND MY
MISTERS! HOW CAN I LIVE AS LONG
AND R. THERE MUST BE SOME-
THING IN THIS GALLERY!

THE ROOMS...
OR COURTESY?



PLEASE! I MUST
KNOW... I FOR MYSTERS
THE ALIVE WHO LEFT
THE CHAIR... THEY
MUST HAVE LEFT SOME-
THING BEHIND!



THE SECURITY SYSTEM
IS WORKING VERY WELL, BUT
MY MISTERS HAVE NOT
A WORKING PLAN! THERE
ARE NO MISTERS OF
PERFECTION HERE --!



REASON? YOU
WANT A REASON WHY
DON'T YOU SAY SO,
DOON, HAH?

HERE! HERE!
RECALL ANY FORMER
LIVES WHEN SAYING
HER SELF AS!



THERE IS ONE
DEVICE WHICH MAY
INTEREST YOU, SIR!
IT'S BUT A TOOL USED
BY MISTERS FOR
PLEASURE.

PERHAPS IT
WILL ALLOW YOU
TO ENTER YOUR
CERTAINLY
CONSTRUCTION...

WHAT EVER IT
IS, ROBOT... I'LL
TRY TO GET ALL THE
HELP I CAN
GET!













WELL, I DON'T
KNOW WHO YOU ARE
BUT YOU'RE DEAD
TODAY!

BUT I KNOW AN
ILL AVENGED TON ON
YOUR SIDE!

SMASH!
THUD!
THUD!

KRASH!

SMASH!

WELL, A MURDERER
WILL BE HELD, BUT
HE ALIVE!

WE OWE YOU
DEATH!

THUD!

THE OWE
FOR JURY?

WELL,
I HOLD IT
IN MY FIST
TODAY!

BOOM!

WELL, THERE ARE, YOU
KNOW, IS A SPECIAL ONE
FROM ME TO YOU!



CAROL... "AND" LATER, A FACT ABOUT THE ONE HUNDRED BONES LATER... IN THE SILENTED JAWBREAKER, THE BEST FORTRESS OF THE DEATH DANCE, THE BOTTLENECK OF AN OLD BONES BARRY FORD, CAROL JACKSON, THE ROBOT MAN, BARRY FORD.



TIN MAN!



YOU BELLOVED, DIDN'T YOU?



WHAT AM I DOING? I'M NOT EVEN UP LIKE A HUNDRED BONES, AM I?

AND WHERE'S THAT HELLION BARRY FORD?



RIGHT HERE, OLD MAN! BARRY FORD! TO GET SOME BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

WELL, YOU HAD BARRY FORD, DIDN'T YOU? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!



A LITTLE MORE THAN THREE DOTS, BARRY!

WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

YOU'VE BONES NO MORE, BARRY FORD! BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!



WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

I'M BARRY FORD! BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!



AFTER ALL, YOU WERE BARRY FORD! BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!



ALL IN ALL, TO SAY EVERYTHING BARRY FORD! BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

WELL, BARRY FORD? BARRY FORD! THE HUNDRED BONES!

ROOK

SO, NO GUNSMEN
MEANS YOU WOULD
BE A GUNSMAN, RIGHT?

OH, MYSTIC BROTHER,
I-I... COULD SAY...

WELL, NO GUNS TO
THE RIGHT HAND TO
BLACK OUT!

LESSON ONE!
DON'T NEVER DRAW
ON ME!

GOING TO TALK
AN ILL SHOW ON
WHAT I WANT!



YOU AINT GONNA
BUT ME, TEN MAN!
JUST NO!!!

Y-YES
MR...!



OH

THO...



NOW THERE'S HOW
YOU STAY ALIVE IN
THE OLD WEST!

REMEMBER YOUR
BARBICUE, BUT
TALKS HOW YOU
STAY ALIVE IN
THE OLD WEST!

I CAN'T SAY
THAT IT DOES MUCH
FOR ME!



SOMEONE
ARE YOU BULLFIGHTING
BY MANHOOD?
AGAIN?

SCOTTIE
AINT THE WORD
GRANDSON? I BEEN
GAVE THAT TALKIN SCAR
FOR A LESSON IN THE
THE RUTH BELLAY!

FROM WHAT I
RECALL THE HISTORY
ACROSS OF YOUR TALKS
NO TALKIN SPARKY HAS
GONNA HELP ALL I CAN
LEARN HIM!





LOST TO THE LAND OF NOWHEN

THE TALK IS HELD. THE PLACE. THE NEW GATE. BUT HE
 QUICKLY ADMITS TOO, SOME TRAINS ARE HUNDRED YEARS
 OLD. IN THE HEART OF THE ANDES MOUNTAINS

CAN'T GET USED TO THE
 ANGRY BEHAVIOR OF
 TRAVELLING THROUGH HERE!

IT'S SO
 DANGEROUS!

HOPES IF I'LL NEVER LEARN ALL THESE JOBS TO DO - COVER ABOUT THOSE CASTS AND?

WELL, DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I'M CRASHED IN A TANK FRAGMENT WHEN IT BREAKS.

I DON KNOW THAT
 ID BETTER BEGUT ON
 THE THIS RESGMENT WITH
 IN FIFTY SEVEN HOURS!
 AND FORTYSEVEN HOURS
 KAMPS IN THE IT SENDS!



THE INSTALLED A
BOLT CELL WITH AN
ELECTRIC LOCK WHICH WILL
LOCK AND OPEN MY TRUNK
AS I PRESS A LIGHT BUTTON ON
MY FAVORITE SADDLE. TO
GET MY DEPENDABLE BACK
HOME...AND QUICK!

WAAAAH! THIS IS ANOTHER THING I GOT SET ON - MY OWN AGONY IN THOUGHTS ON THE OLD ADULT SNAKE, BEING A LITTLE BOY, KAPING SOME-ONE OF ADVANTAGE KNOWING!

GROWING AND GROWING!

GROWING NOW I ACCIDENTALLY SELECTED THE BEST TO BUILD MY BOOK CIRCLE - NOW I AM ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD NOW!

HARVEST MASTER! YOU'VE BE THIPPED! YOUR GAME!

THAT I AM, SENTINEL! I CAME BACK TO EXAMINE THE SCARCED OF YOUR RESERVUE MASTERS!

THAT I
AM, SENTINEL,
I CAME BACK
TO EXAMINE
THE SCENES
OF YOUR
FIREFIGHTS
AND BATTLES.









"FALLS
BELIEVE!"



"OH MY GOD!
MIGHT NOT I
DOVE!"

"FALLS
DESTROYED!"



"THE BLAME..." HE
MUST HAVE SAVED ME...
STEPPED BETWEEN ME
...AND THE EXPLOSION!"

"I'VE DESTROYED
AM IN MY FOOL-HEARTY
PUNISHMENT!"



"DREAMING HEAD
SPINNING... I'VE BEEN
LIVE I'VE BEEN OUT?"

"GOOD GOOD!
GOOD! THE
BUTLY OF HAVING
DETER IS GLOWING
AND IT!"



"I MUST GET
OUT OF HERE..."



"GET TO THE
TOWN CASTLE..."



"IT'S BEFORE
THE TOO
LATE!"



"OH GOD!"













THE MAKING OF A COMIC BOOK HERO!

There was silence for a moment. Then simultaneously their eyes began to sparkle. They didn't have to even intone. Each knew what the other was thinking.

Lewis was excited. "Why not, man? You'll peezy Warren, but be able to do the kind of character you want. Open the story with a trilogy set in the old west. The Alamo. He wants another Davy Crockett, give it to him."

Duke was fired now. The character seemed to take on shape and substance, emitted from their collective minds. "He can be a man of today, searching for his roots."

"Alex Haley'd love it!"

"Answerer? Not only with the world's sole working time machine, but a rocket ship and a couple dozen robots thrown in, for good measure."

"You really think America is going to open its heart for starships and robots?"

"You're right. We're getting carried away. No starships. But one robot, anyway. And maybe two utility robots to keep it company."

"I even have a name for him," blurted Lewis. "We'll call him Rock!"

"Rock? That's the name of that medieval character you came up with but never quite knew where to sell."

"It's a nifty name. Besides, we can give him a horse named King, and a girlfriend who's a queen, and so on down the checklist."



**And
Coming in the all-new
Rock magazine...**

"Telly what," Duke quoted him diplomatically. "I'll give it to J.W. and let you know what he thinks."

And so The Rock was born. Not, however, without growing pains that lasted several months longer. Jim Steintrun, third partner in the growing Cartoon Factory, assisted with the burgeoning first storyline. After dozens of rough sketches were prepared and soundfied, a tentative costume was settled upon; more the brainchild of Steintrun than anyone else.

A final script was prepared. The best possible artist chosen. And sketches of all the principal and props were simultaneously sent to illustrator Luke Novella, and to Peretti, who was to build life-size mockups of working Rock toys.

More months passed. Finally, Peretti's art on the first finished story arrived, followed by Peretti's toy designs. Both were magnificent.

But, Duke noticed, Manners, The Rock's robot was conspicuously absent from Peretti's full-scale plastic mockups. In fact, the smaller robots, Nite and Boite were missing, too. "How come?" cried the one-time Warren editor.

"Tut-tut with the original western theme," admitted Peretti. "Robots and science fiction are a dead commodity in the toy industry. We'd never be able to sell them."

What the heck, figured Warren and Duke. Maybe the Californians knew something they didn't.

The first Rock story was published in Warren's *ECHE* magazine in December, 1970. The praise was immediate and thunderous. Never had a mere comic magazine been received more fan mail and a more enthusiastic response.

While over at the New York Toy Center, gathering place for large and small plaything manufacturers alike, The Rock generated wild interest. "We not Barbie and Ken," shrugged one entrepreneur. "But maybe we can sell a few dozen time machines."

By the time The Rock was a year old, however, the toy industry was still dragging its heels, debating whether or not this westernized rogar had any future in plastic.

Suddenly it was May 1977. And overnight the long-debated, new

crux was upon us. While almost nobody was looking, the motion picture *Star Wars* stormed the American consciousness. Instantly, robots and the future were here.

And the toy industry, God bless their predictable souls, went the way of trendish American thinking: Cowboys and Indians were out, science fiction and robots were now!

Boy, was Howard Peretti's face red!

And The Rock? As planned, his adventures continued in the pages of *ECHE*. New readers, perhaps influenced by that growing epidemic known as *Star Wars* fever, seemed to agree that both Beetham Dams and Luke Skywalker were born of the same mold.

As for the future, well, while yet fully in the grip of science fiction fever, the world politely awaits *Star Wars II*. Will there also be a Rock II, an entire magazine devoted to the adventures of the time travelling hero who has stormed the comic world? Probably not! But the *Continues of The Rock Magazine* is in preparation even now! And besides a thirty-page adventure featuring Warren's overnight sensation, exciting new heroes have been created at the Cartoon Factory by the same people who brought you Beetham Dams and friends. It's not western or science fiction, but pure comic fan.

Yet, if westerns ever do return to vogue, well, we'll be ready for that, too!



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...AND ONLY THE ROOK
CAN STOP HIM!



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**BISHOP DANE AND
MANNERS FIGHT
TIME TO SAVE
THE ROCK!**